

Montana Comprehensive Assessment System

MontCAS

Montana Office of Public Instruction
Linda McCulloch, Superintendent
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Assessment Terms



- Standardized Test
- Norm-referenced test
- Criterion-referenced test
- Performance levels
- Alternate Assessment
- LEP, ELL, ELP
- NCLB
 - No Child Left Behind
 - Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)
- Administrative Rules of Montana
 - ARM
 - Board of Public Education (BPE)

MontCAS

Phase 1	Phase 2	NAEP	ELP
NRT	CRT	Odd Years	English Language
Grades 4, 8, 11	Grades 4, 8, 10	Sample Grades 4 and 8	Grade Spans K-12
5 Subjects	Reading and Math (Science)	Reading and Math	Reading; Language Arts
Spring/Fall	Spring	Winter	Fall TBA

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MontCAS

Phase 1

- Norm-referenced test (NRT)—the Iowas—Riverside Publishing Company
- Aligned to national standards
- Grades 4, 8, 11
- Reading, language arts, math, social studies, science
- Multiple choice
- Alternate assessment scales
- Funded by the state

Phase 2

- Criterion-referenced test (CRT)—Measured Progress
- Aligned to Montana Content Standards
- Grades 4, 8, 10
- Reading and math
- Multiple choice, math short answer and constructed response
- Evidence based alternate
- Funded by NCLB

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Other Assessments

- National Assessment of Educational Progress
 - NAEP--Nation's Report Card
 - Odd Years
 - Grades 4 and 8, Reading and Math
 - Required Sample
- English Language Proficiency
 - Required by NCLB
 - MWAC
 - Tentative: Fall 2006



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Spring 2006 Test Windows

- Phase 2
 - CRT-Alternate
 - Feb. 13 – March 29
 - CRT
 - March 6 – March 29
- Phase 1
 - NRT and Alternate Assessment Scales
 - March 22 – April 12

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Montana Content Standards

- Standards, benchmarks, grade-level expectations in grades 4, 8, and upon graduation
 - <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/standards/index/html>

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Montana Performance Levels

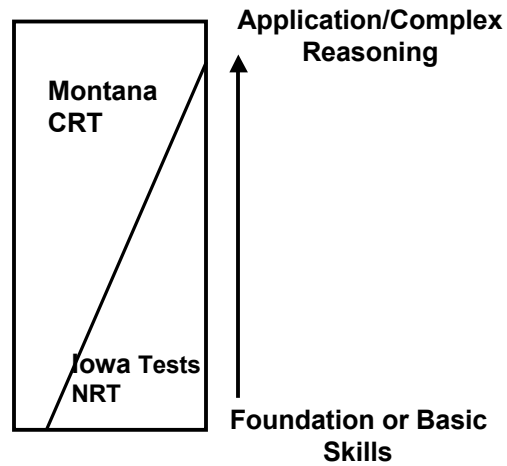
- Advanced
- Proficient



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- Nearing Proficiency
 - Novice

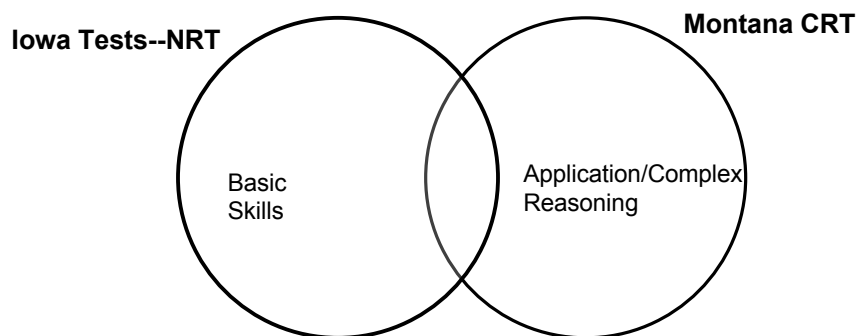
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Complementary Assessments



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Overlapping Assessments



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Brief Overview of Phase 1

- Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM 10.56.101)
- Norm-referenced test (NRT), the IOWAS
- Riverside Publishing Company
- Off the shelf test
- First statewide administration – 2001
- Test items are not released
- Future of the NRT
 - Spring 2006
 - Fall 2006--sample

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Brief Overview of Phase 2

- Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT)
- Common and embedded field test items
 - Sixteen forms per grade provides a large pool of field test items.
 - Field test items become common items in future tests.
 - Only common items are used for scoring.
- Scored items are released each year

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Phase 2 Released Items

- Common items are released annually.
 - Phase 2 Assessment website
 - <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/assessment/crt.html>
 - iAnalyze—software management tool
 - Answer keys, scoring rubrics, and examples of student work at each score point are provided.

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Phase 2 Implementation Schedule



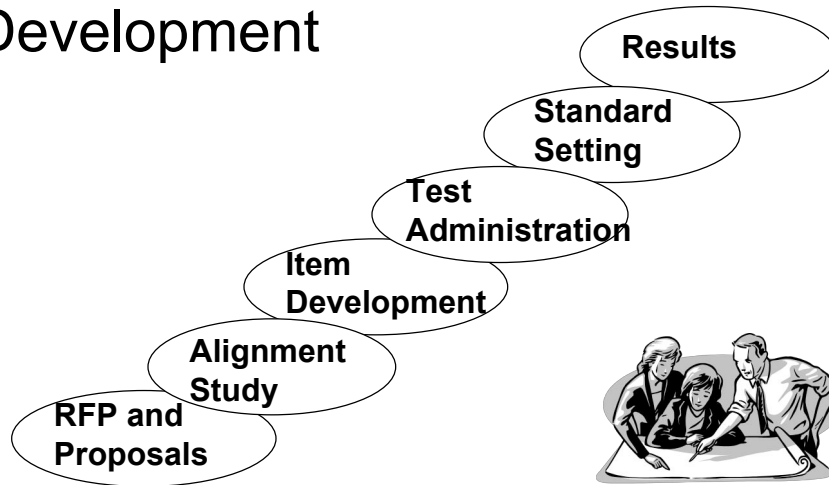
Spring 2004 and 2005
Reading and Math, Grades 4, 8, & 10

Spring 2006 and 2007
Reading and Math, Grades 3-8 & 10

Spring 2008
Reading and Math, Grades 3-8 & 10
Science, Grades 4, 8, 10

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Phase 2 Development



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Phase 2 Item Development

- Progress Towards Standards (PTS)
- Montana items—based on alignment study
 - Item Writing
 - Content and Bias Review
 - Pilot Test
 - Item Selection

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Participation in MontCAS All Means All!

• Phase 1 Options

- No accommodations
- If in IEP, 504, or LEP plan
 - Standard or non standard accommodations
 - Alternate Assessment Scale
 - Combination

• Phase 2 Options

- No accommodations
- Standard accommodations
- If in IEP or 504 plan
 - Non standard accommodations
 - CRT-Alternate

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Accommodations

Standard

- Do not change the intent/content of the assessment
- Phase 1: Only by IEP, 504, or LEP plan
- Phase 2: By IEP, 504, LEP, or regular routine in the classroom

Non Standard

- Change the content/intent of the assessment
- Phase 1: Only by IEP, 504, or LEP plan
- Phase 2: Only by IEP or 504 plan

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Alternate Assessment

- Phase 1
 - Range of students with IEP, 504, or LEP plan
 - May be used in combination with accommodations
 - No accommodations
 - Standard
 - Non standard
 - May be used for 1 or more subjects
- Phase 2
 - For students with significant cognitive disabilities
 - Must be specified in IEP or 504 plan
 - Not in combination with accommodations
 - Must be taken in all subjects

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Phase 1: Quick Facts Alternate Assessment Scales

- Grades 4, 8, 11
- Reading, writing (language arts), math, social studies, science
 - May be used for 1 or more subjects
 - Not necessary to complete for all subjects
 - MUST be specified in IEP and LEP plans
- Checklist completed by teacher
- May be appropriate for IEP, LEP, and 504 students

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Phase 2: Quick Facts CRT-Alternate

- By law designed for students with significant cognitive disabilities
- Eligibility
 - 4 Questions to be answered yes
 - Must be in IEP
- Developed using Montana Reading and Mathematics content standards and expanded benchmarks
- Age-appropriate activity
- Scored using a four point rubric by the teacher administering the activity

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Reports

- Paper
 - Interpretative Guides
- Electronic
 - Data files
 - *RADRS*—NRT
 - *iAnalyze*—CRT



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Scores



- Phase 1—NRT
 - NPR
 - NCE
 - Stanine
 - Performance Level
- Phase 2—CRT
 - Scaled Score
 - Performance Level for each content area
 - Raw Score
 - Number of points for each standard

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Links

- OPI MontCAS
 - <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/assessment/index.html>
- MontCAS Phase 1
 - <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/assessment/nrt.html>
- MontCAS Phase 2
 - <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/assessment/crt.html>
- Jump Newsletters
 - <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/Assessment/JUMP.html>

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